

THE WORKS PROGRAM

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--The Division of Applications and Information--

FOR RELEASE IN AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS  
OF FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1935

The Division of Applications and Information announced today that the President has approved an allotment of \$266,289 requested by the Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture for a group of 33 projects in 21 North Dakota counties.

The projects are designed to provide relief employment, to conserve water and wildlife, to check flood and erosion, to increase fur production, to provide stable water supplies and to create Federal waterfowl refuges in selected strategic locations. The work will consist primarily of the erection of earth-fill dams, riprapping with natural materials, the digging of diversion ditches, the construction of spillways and the marking of the refuges.

"The benefits accruing from the proposed projects may briefly be summarized as being unemployment relief through the development of over 52,000 acres of Federal waterfowl refuges, with attendant increased fur production, conservation of natural resources, flood and erosion control, stabilization of water supplies and the development of recreational advantages not now available," R.G. Tugwell, Acting Secretary of Agriculture, explained in submitting the application.

"The direct economic return can scarcely be estimated in terms of dollars, but it is believed that such return will in itself justify the project. The restoration of waterfowl areas is a direct aid to a nation-wide trade doing a business of \$750,000,000 annually, and the increased production of fur, notably mink and muskrat, will provide additional local revenue. Prior to the days of drainage and drought, the fur industry in North Dakota provided a cash income of well over \$2,000,000 annually to the people, principally through the sale of mink and muskrat pelts. The average market value of these pelts today is easily triple the average value of the pelts prior to the loss of production. It is apparent, therefore, that the restoration of propagation areas will bring a substantial economic return. This income will go directly to the rural population at the season of the year when farm income is at its lowest ebb.

"Additional areas are under consideration, and the acquisition of additional sites can be completed in sufficient time to provide further employment if surplus funds accrue from the development work on projects included herein."

The projects follow with locations, acreage and cost:

- 1 - Lake Alice, Ramsey County, 4,696 acres of land under easement, \$3,115.29.
  - 2 - Appert, Emmons County, 640 acres, \$3,606.43.
  - 3 - Ardoch Lake, Walsh County, 1,941 acres, \$16,166.19.
  - 4 - Billings Lake, Cavalier County, 520 acres, \$1,273.60.
  - 5 - Bone Hill Creek, LaMoure County, 640 acres, \$3,095.25.
  - 6 - Buffalo Lake, Pierce County, 1,896 acres, \$11,362.28.
  - 7 - Canfield Lake, Burleigh County, 310 acres, \$14,319.91.
  - 8 - Cloud's Lake, Sargent County, 800 acres, \$939.65.
  - 9 - Cottonwood Creek, LaMoure County, 1,280 acres, \$3,190.36.
  - 10 - Lake George, Kidder County, 3,074 acres, \$18,037.90.
  - 11 - Halverson, McHenry County, 400 acres, \$641.88.
  - 12 - Hanson, Emmons County, 480 acres, \$6,996.47.
  - 13 - Hutchinson, Kidder County, 499 acres, \$2,264.69.
  - 14 - Johnson Lake, Eddy and Nelson Counties, 1,607 acres, \$1,273.87.
  - 15 - Kelly's Slough, Grand Forks County, 760 acres, \$17,805.14.
  - 16 - Klabonde, Emmons County, 160 acres, \$8,462.94.
  - 17 - Lawler, Emmons County, 495 acres, \$4,903.76.
  - 18 - Long Lake, Burleigh County, 17,511 acres, \$82,263.79.
  - 19 - Lord's Lake, Bottineau and Rolette Counties, 1,444 acres, \$7,450.22.
  - 20 - Lost Lake, McLean County, 800 acres, \$1,374.51.
  - 21 - Maple River, Dickey County, 1,120 acres, \$1,517.40.
  - 22 - Nason, Grand Forks County, 520 acres, \$2,391.07.
  - 23 - Lake Nettie, McLean County, 1,050 acres, \$1,500.14.
  - 24 - Pleasant Lake, Benson County, 982 acres, \$816.07.
  - 25 - Sheyenne Lake, Sheridan County, 795 acres, \$1,641.38.
- Shirek, Walsh County, 800 acres, \$2,644.04.
- Shirk, McKenzie County, 400 acres, \$817.15.
- Storm Lake, Sargent County, 341 acres, \$5,376.38.
- State Land, Emmons County, 640 acres, \$7,059.91.
- Lake Tewaukan, Sargent County, 1,855 acres, \$6,513.38.

31 - White Lake, Slope County, 960 acres, \$22,825.14.

32 - Willow Lake, Rolette County, 2,278 acres, \$1,212.39.

33 - Wood Lake Marsh, Benson County, 322 acres, \$3,430.42.

The easements signed by property owners for these tracts convey perpetual refuge, construction, inundation and maintenance rights, and they are placed on record in the county court houses.

Hauling will be done entirely with teams in order to aid owners of teams on relief rolls.

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